REMARKS

Claims 1-17 have been canceled.

Claims 18-43 have been added. Claims 18-43 are based upon Claims 1-17 of the International Application, as amended under Article 34, but have been amended to eliminate multiple dependencies and to revise other informalities. An English language translation of the claims as amended under Article 34 is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

A "Related Applications" paragraph has been added.

No new matter has been added.

Information Disclosure Statement

An Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) is being filed concurrently herewith to cite references from the PCT Search report. Entry of the IDS is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Entry of the Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (978) 341-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

HAMILTON, BROOK, SMITH & REYNOLDS, P.C.

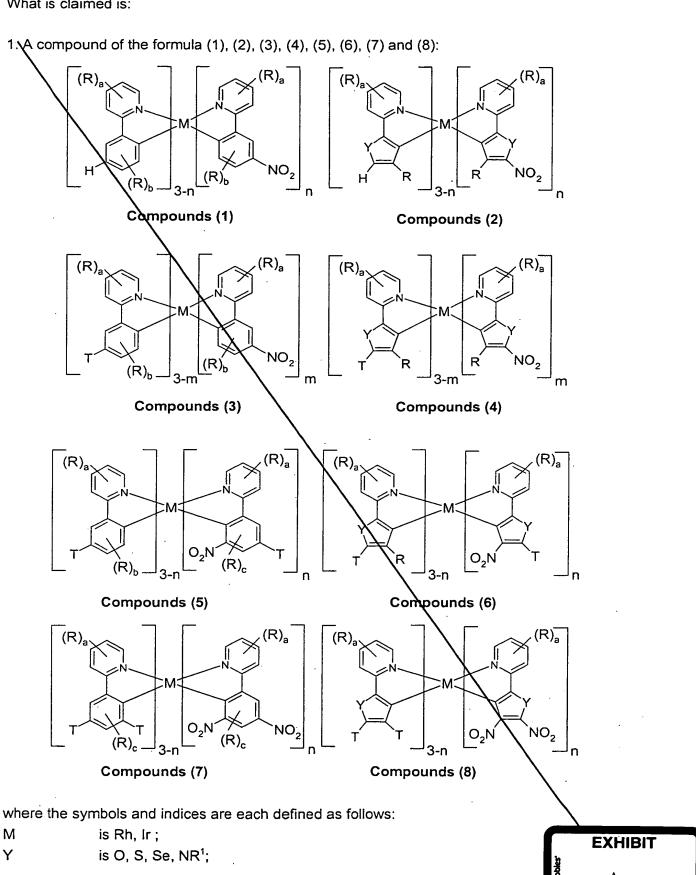
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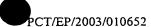
Facsimile: (978) 341-0136

Dated: April 21, 6 Concord, MA 01742-9133 What is claimed is:



is 1, 2 or 3.

n



is the same or different at each instance and is H, F, Cl, Br, CN, a straight-R chain or branched or cyclic alkyl or alkoxy group having from 1 to 20 carbon atoms, in which one or more nonadjacent CH2 groups may be replaced by -O-, -SiR12-, -S-, -NR1- or -CONR1- and in which one or more hydrogen atoms may be replaced by F, or an aryl or heteroaryl group having from 4 to 14 carbon atoms which may be substituted by one or more nonaromatic R radicals, and a plurality of R substituents, either on the same ring or on the two different rings, may together in turn form one further aliphatic or aromatic, mono- or polycyclic ring system; is the same or different at each instance and is F, Cl, Br, CN, a straight-chain Т or branched or cyclic alkyl or alkexy group having from 1 to 20 carbon atoms, in which one or more nonadjacent SH2 groups may be replaced by -O-, -SiR¹₂₋, -S-, -NR¹- or -CONR¹- and in which one or more hydrogen atoms may be replaced by F, or an aryl or heteroaryl group having from 4 to 14 carbon atoms which may be substituted by one or more nonaromatic R radicals, and a plurality of R substituents, either on the same ring or on the two different rings, may together in turn form one further aliphatic or aromatic, mono- or polycyclic ring system; is the same or different at each instance and is H or an aliphatic or aromatic R^1 hydrocarbon radical having from 1 to 20 carbon atoms; is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4; а is 0, 1, 2 or 3; b is 0, 1 or 2; С is 1 or 2; m

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